

# ALMAGEST

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Louisiana State University in Shreveport

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Almagest photo by Gwin Grogan

## State's budget cuts could affect LSUS

by DONNA WHITTON  
Managing Editor

A 20 percent budget reduction may affect LSUS and other college campuses across the state, according to a letter issued Thursday by LSUS Chancellor E. Grady Bogue.

Such a cut would take place because a state "revenue deficit of approximately \$500 million is expected for next year, with the possibility of that deficit being aggravated if oil prices drop further and the Graham Rudman

Act causes loss of federal revenues to the state," the letter stated.

"There's a lot of consideration around campus," said Lynn Stewart, director of Information Services. "We will be having some meetings and we will be discussing what needs to be cut," she added.

The letter said that the cut would probably be in the form of fee increases and reduction in student services and academic course program opportunities. Also, currently vacant and frozen

staff positions may not be filled.

Other "belt-tightening measures" would be needed, the letter said, but some of those would depend on the actions of the LSU Board of Supervisors and the Board of Regents.

"We must maintain our poise but try to share with our Governor, our Legislators and civic friends the long-term damage that will occur to the University and our community if together we cannot find a solution to the economic challenges facing our state," the letter ended.

## Store says no to Dr. Ruth

by DONNA WHITTON  
Managing Editor

Beall-Ladymon stores have discontinued ticket sales to the Dr. Ruth Westheimer lecture sponsored by the LSUS Program Council, according to Lynn Stewart, director of Information Services.

The pull-out comes during extensive controversy concerning

the appearance of Westheimer, a popular radio and television sex therapist.

Beall-Ladymon officials were unavailable for comment.

"We are honoring their request," said Collette Cheramie, director of student activities. She added that she is trying to find alternative ticket outlets.

"I don't think it will be a pro-

blem," Stewart said adding that Stan's in downtown Shreveport will sell tickets to the event.

Stewart has not received any complaints about Westheimer's appearance, but said, "The ones who oppose it have apparently been very vocal."

Westheimer is scheduled to speak at the Shreveport Civic Theatre March 7 at 7:30 p.m.



James Meredith

## Meredith: Blacks must achieve goals

by SCOTT STRONG  
News Editor

Luther King.

Meredith, currently a professor of black history at the University of Cincinnati, said that many intergration goals have been achieved and now blacks must set out to achieve their own goals.

"We (blacks) are going to have to stop waiting for a crises before we go into action," he said.

In a forum after the presentation, LSUS Chancellor Grady Bogue asked how LSUS can effectively serve black men and women.

"We are going to have to lose our sensitivity," Meredith said in response. "For this university to serve the 40 percent of the community which is black, somehow an atmosphere will have to be created where they can feel comfortable."

To be comfortable, people cannot feel as if invited into a foreign environment where everybody minds their p's and q's, but instead need to feel as if at home, Meredith said.

Blacks need to address the question of how to prepare young blacks to want to attend colleges, said Civil Rights leader James Meredith in a presentation last night in the UC Theater.

Meredith's speech, "The Road to Freedom," was presented by the LSUS Artists and Lectures Committee in observance of Afro American Heritage Month.

Meredith gained international attention when he was the first black to attend the University of Mississippi in 1962. Thousands of federal troops were sent by President Kennedy to Oxford, Mississippi to calm the riots over Meredith's enrollment.

Meredith led the famous March Against Fear in Mississippi in 1966. When an attempted assassination hospitalized him, the march was resumed under the leadership of another prominent black leader, Dr. Martin

## Mills named department chairman

by SCOTT STRONG  
News Editor

Dr. Stuart Mills assumed responsibilities as Chairman of the Math and Computer Science Department January 23 after the resignation of Dr. Carlos Spaht.

Mills was formerly acting Dean of Sciences during the 84-85 school year. He applied for the position of full-time dean, but Dr. Lyle Cook, an Idaho resident, was appointed to the position in July of last year.

Spaht said he has "no comment" about his resignation, nor about the new science administration under Cook. Earlier,

Dr. Al McKinney resigned as coordinator of the computer science program. His resignation will go into effect after the end of this semester.

Mills, a resident of Louisiana for the past 30 years, received his doctorate in mathematics from LSU in Baton Rouge.

"It's been difficult to get started in the middle of the semester, but with the help of supporting people in the department, it's gone as well as can be expected," Mills said.

Mills said that one immediate goal of the department is to split math and computer science into



Dr. Stuart Mills

two separate departments.

"We haven't made it through all the hoops that we have to jump through, but as soon as we

cont.—see page 2



# news



Michael Rossi gets comfortable in the library while studying.

## Browsing room should be used

Dear Editor,

I'm a student worker employed in the Browsing Room of the UC. Before I got the job I was already well familiar with the Browsing Room, because it was an excellent place to spend time in between classes. As a first year LSUS student (or anyone who doesn't have an abundance of friends to associate within the UC), I found that the Browsing Room was an excellent place to not only relax and listen to music, but also a good place to meet people and make new friends. This is especially true in light of the fact that, aside from the Greek organizations, there aren't a great deal of places where people can gather and get to know each other at a commuter-campus like LSUS.

The reason why I decided to write this letter is because when I started work in the BR this semester, I noticed that the amount of people using the facility seemed too low for the number of people going to school here. It

occurred to me, that perhaps this was because not enough people knew about it. I thought since the *Almagest* is well read by a majority of the students here, it would be a worthwhile subject for you to consider investigating.

After all, every student pays for the UC and it only makes sense to make good use of what you're already paying for. The BR already has a fairly good selection of albums and tapes, and every semester new ones are added. Student's input is almost the sole consideration when we buy new albums. Consequently there is always an ample supply of survey forms in the BR. I personally encourage all LSUS students to use the BR. After all, where can you listen to music of your own choosing, read magazines, meet friends, or even study between classes without all the noisiness of the Cafeteria, no matter what the weather.

Sincerely,

Neill Normand

## ROTC offers scholarships

Two and three-year academic scholarships are now being offered by the Army/ROTC at LSUS.

Qualified students with a 2.0 or better grade point average can apply. Two-year scholarships are being offered to students with 54 to 66 credit hours and three-year scholarships to those with 27 to 33 credit hours. The hours include

the courses a student is presently taking.

The scholarships pay tuition, \$180 a semester for books and \$100 a month subsistence allowance for 10 months a year.

For more information see anyone in the military science department for an application. Applications need to be turned in by Feb. 13.

## SGA says no to lottery; to ask state for more funds

by DOREEN LAFAUCI  
Staff Writer

The SGA Senate voted down a bill Monday that would bring needed funds into the Louisiana educational system and passed a bill requesting that the Governor increase support of higher education with 100 percent funding.

After much debate, the SGA voted 14-7 against a resolution by Senators Dale Kaiser and William Epps to openly support the pending Louisiana State Lottery, even after amending the resolution to read "only if monies from which will go to education and health care."

Yet it is the lack of proper fun-

ding disabling Louisiana Universities that got the senate to pass a bill asking the state legislature to improve standards of education in Louisiana.

"It is rumored that next fall tuition could increase to at least \$540 because of cuts in the education budget," said Tim Robinson, SGA president. This increase would serve only to protect the status-quo at LSUS and not bring any improvements to the campus, he said.

If the lottery proposal had passed the senate floor, Robinson said he would have vetoed it. "I think the Governor is using education as an excuse to get the lottery and I don't think many students

would support it." Yet according to *The Times*, 64 percent of Louisiana voters do support the lottery as a means of funding state education.

When asked how SGA expects the state to come up with the money for increases in education, Beth Holliman, SGA vice-president, replied, "We don't know the technicalities of raising money. This bill is merely to get more money for the school."

The SGA is hoping 50 percent of the student body will respond favorably to the petition which, along with petitions circulating in other state universities, will be brought before the Governor in April.

## Mills named department chairman

Cont. from page 1

have authorization, we should have a splitting of the programs into two new departments," Mills said.

The Math and Computer Science Department is the

largest on campus, in terms of both students and faculty. Mills said the split will allow the math faculty to focus attention primarily on math concerns.

Of the relationship between department faculty and Dean Cook, Mills said the faculty is "in

the process of getting acclimated to a new vision of our role in the university."

"With any change of leadership, there is a new philosophy to be acclimated to, by both existing faculty and the new appointee."



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# notes

## Survey

All hearing impaired, visually impaired, or deaf-blind students please come to the Communications Center Office, BH 321 to fill

out a survey form. Funding for programs for the visually or hearing impaired is based largely on the numbers generated by this survey. Please come and be counted.

## Student gives his DWI testimony

by KEVAN SMITH  
Staff Writer

All through the holidays we saw the Public Service Announcements: "Friends don't let friends drive drunk," "Drinking and driving can really kill a friendship," etc. . . Stevie Wonder pushed the message on the dance floor in "Don't Drive Drunk" and on a poster — "Before I let a drunk drive me anywhere, I'll drive first."

Some of us heeded the message and added a jigger of caution to our bar drinks. Others continued in their drunk driving. Some of us made it home alright; some of us were arrested; and some of us died. Still others didn't drink at all and cussed the "damn drunks" on the road.

Scott, a freshman psychology major, suffered the bad fortune of destroying his Mustang and receiving a DWI. I've known him since high school and we attended a Court Alcohol Abuse Program together.

Here is Scott's plaintive story:

"I'd been to a party about a half-hour before and had taken a couple of beers in the car with me; we had been pouring mixed drinks really stout at the party. I left the party after about an hour.

"It had just begun to rain and at Fairfield and 70th Street I slid through a red light and hit another car. I totalled mine.

"The police came about five minutes later and an officer made a damage report. He searched my car with a flashlight and asked if I'd been drinking. I told him I'd had a couple of beers. Then he shined a pen-light in my eyes, made me stand on one leg, say the alphabet and touch my finger to my nose with my eyes closed.

"About five minutes later more police arrived. They ran me through the tests again and frisked me. They they put me in the front of a patrol car and took me to the DWI testing station on Murphy Street. I was tested there in front of a video camera and had a breathalyzer reading of .128.

"Then they handcuffed me and booked me into City Jail. Around

2 or 3 a.m. my father bailed me out."

A blood alcohol level of .10 is the level for prosecution as a DWI. Scott appeared before Judge Kelly on Thus, Dec. 5, pleaded guilty and received his sentence.

According to the Louisiana State Troopers, highway deaths in this state attributed to legally intoxicated drivers diminished this holiday season from years past. They cite their get-tough policy as the reason. Indeed, a record number of DWI prosecutions occurred in Louisiana last year.

The penalty for a first-time DWI conviction is the deterrent. Scott was fined \$400.50, paid court costs of \$134.50, \$40 for registration in the DWI class and \$160 for a hardship license (good only for travel to school, work and in emergencies). Also included was around \$1085 for an SR-22 form which includes liability insurance and is mandatory to re-establish a regular license. In addition, Scott served four eight-hour work days picking up garbage for the city and a night in jail to add to his college memories.

Scott said, "For 30 days after the accident I could drive with a (temporary) pink slip. . . ; then I couldn't drive period for 30 days. If caught, I would lose my license for a year and pay some heavy fines."

He says his parents were understanding. "I'm having to pay for it," he said. "They say it's a costly, expensive lesson."

"My friends sympathize," Scott said, "a few empathize, They take it as a warning."

Scott thinks his DWI was a sign of immaturity. "It's not wise," he said, "to drink and drive. I could have died. I lost my car and it affected my family life. I don't do it anymore."

Scott now tells his friends not to drive drunk.

He has this to say to you: "If you've had too much, stay where you are and sober up. Get the facts about what your body can hold. If you can learn this lesson the easy way, then do it."

## Cap and gowns

The Bookstore will take Cap and Gown orders for Spring Commencement during the week of February 17-21.

## PRSSA

PRSSA will hold its monthly meeting Wed., February 12, at noon in BH 363. Topics of discussion will include the Spring Conference, Vo-tech, and much, much more. All members and non-members are urged to attend.

## ACM

The LSUS ACM Student Chapter will be meeting on

Bossier Room of the University Center. Dr. Lee Bairnsfather will be speaking on the "Unix" operating system. All interested persons are invited.

## BSU

Everyone is invited to attend luncheoncounter at the BSU Feb. 12. The speaker will be Mike

Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Caddo-Back from First Assembly of God. Other weekly activities include Bible study Mondays at noon, CBYM Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. and noonspiration Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. There is still time to sign up for the March 7 mission conference. Sign up before Feb. 21 and pay only \$8.

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# editorials

## A lottery? Yes

The Student Government Association earlier this week stopped a bill which would endorse the proposed Louisiana State Lottery, a proposal which several senators obviously looked at as immoral. This in itself is not unusual considering that parts of the state still oppose the lottery.

What is unusual is that the SGA minutes later passed a proposal which would have the SGA president ask the state government for more money for education.

Is the SGA so caught up with itself that it cannot reason logically and ask itself where that money will come from?

Haven't the SGA senators looked at the continued increases in tuition and the possibility of another tuition hike next year because of the state's financial crisis?

Hasn't the SGA looked at the state's financial situation and realized that the state is going broke despite earlier tax increases?

And hasn't the SGA considered that revenue from the lottery will be dedicated to education and health care?

Obviously not.

At first glance Governor Edwards' proposed state lottery has a look of bringing more corruption, crime and immorality to Louisiana. After a second glance, however, the lottery begins to appear to be one of the best proposals Edwards has made since he began his third term as governor.

Edwards' proposal would take revenues generated by a statewide lottery and use them to support education and health care. Without these revenues, Edwards has warned the legislature, the state will be forced into making massive budget cuts.

Some of the cuts might include:

- Cutting funds to higher education by 20 percent. This would result in more tuition hikes for our universities and program cuts. The effects have already been seen at LSUS during the past three years with two tuition hikes.

- Cutting funds for health care. This in turn would include releasing some mental patients and laying off physicians.

Governor Edwards has already attempted to help the state's financial crisis by increasing taxes. But this clearly hasn't helped the state enough.

His only remaining alternatives are more budget cuts or the lottery or both.

The easy solution is the lottery. The lottery has already proven itself successful in several states and with caution can be successful in Louisiana also.

Critics argue, however, that the lottery will bring more organized crime into the state. Have they forgotten that the state already has legalized gambling at horse racing tracks and that New Orleans is one of the biggest Mafia headquarters in the nation?

Critics also argue that it is immoral. This is a decision which the people who participate in the lottery can make for themselves. We do not need a minority telling us what is immoral when 64 percent of people polled recently say they support the lottery if the funds are used for education and health care.

The lottery won't stop all of the state's financial problems, but at least it will be a start on the right track for the state's recovery, a recovery which looks long and bleak with few hopes for improvement without new forms of revenue.

So think about it. The lottery does have minor flaws, but at least it's worth an attempt to help our ailing state's educational system.

## To improve our school systems we must improve our children

by BILLY HUNT  
Features Writer

I was astonished to see the report that was released Monday containing statistics on the Caddo Parish middle schools (sixth through eighth grades). It makes me wonder where our priorities lie, because they are obviously not with educating our children.

Ironically, before I saw these statistics I had gone to pick up my younger sister, who attends Ridgewood Middle School, from a basketball game. I overheard a few of the kids out front talking about how "drunk" and "high" they intended to get over the weekend. These are 12 and 13 year olds.

If many of the kids are talking

like this, then it is not surprising that 41 percent of the Caddo Parish middle school students failed to make a C average in the second grading period. Of that group 30 percent failed to make a C average for the entire semester.

What kind of future does this hold in store for us?

Representative Buddy Roemer has been saying for quite a while that our top priority should be education. Many people tend to agree with him, however, nothing gets done about it. It's not the school board that needs to improve. It's the importance of the family in America that needs help.

What kind of values are children learning from their parents these days? Do parents

care that their children are doing so poorly in school? Judging by these statistics, apparently they don't. Or perhaps it's the lack of unity in family that is heard these days that is causing this. The vanishing family — not just black families as is popularly believed, ALL families.

Society is much more open than it used to be and children will learn things at a very young age. But the idea of the family — the idea of togetherness seems to be slipping away from society. If it does, children will not learn things that are important.

We've got to keep a better eye on our children, through the idea of the family. That's the main element that could see our schools improve.

## Lack of 'Southern culture' solved by tractor pulls

by BILL COOKSEY  
Editor

Maybe it was the idea of it which appealed to me most. A group of farmers and professionals from various forms of life get together for an evening to see whose hot rod truck or tractor can pull the most weight in the mud.

Or maybe it was just the idea that it was different from anything I had ever seen that sort of intrigued me. Then again, maybe I was just in the mood to have my ear drums blown out.

Whatever it was, it sure caught me by surprise when my best friend said, "You haven't been to a tractor pull?" When I proudly said that I hadn't, he began his sermon of how much I would enjoy it.

A few hours later I was convinced. "OK go ahead and get the tickets; it oughta be fun," I told him.

I have to admit that I looked forward to the event billed as "The TNT Southern Nationals Hot Rod Pull." I figured at least it would give me a little bit of the 'Southern Culture' I have been lacking.

I was right. It was a piece of southern culture. After looking at

the crowd for the first time I realized I was one of the few who wasn't wearing a t-shirt, a cowboy shirt or a cap displaying the name of a truck or construction firm. In fact, I kind of felt out of place with my striped button-down-collar shirt.

That was lesson number one. Never wear a button-down-collar shirt and 501 button-fly Levis to a truck pull. Go ahead and look a little more relaxed. Wear boots, a t-shirt and a cap.

Lesson number two was almost as obvious as lesson one. Don't attend a truck pull if you aren't a Ford or Chevy truck fan. I made the mistake of being one of two in my section of seats who rooted for the Dodge pickups. The other was my best friend because he just bought a new Dodge truck.

This also leads into mistake number two, part B. Don't try to tell your neighbor sitting next to you that the Chevy truck he is cheering for is really powered by a non-stock Dodge Hemi-style engine. You probably will end up with a cup of Miller beer poured over your head.

Lesson number three to a truck pull is simple. Don't try and think rationally. Get primitive. Imagine yourself in Rome back in 50

B.C. sitting in the Coliseum watching the lions eating the gladiators. Now update this to the current times and you have yourself a tractor pull.

The rules were simple. The truck which could pull the heaviest load the farthest was the winner. Now these aren't your ordinary run-of-the-mill GMC that you drive to the store. We're talking about a \$25,000 engine in these monsters which is a few decibels louder than a rock concert — not exactly what you want to sit next to at a stop light. We're talking mud hogs.

I have to admit after the first few minutes I was completely fascinated by it. And like everyone else, I hollered when the truck I was rooting for made it to the end of the track with the weight sled behind it.

The time seemed to fly by so fast. Before I knew it I had seen a couple of motors go up in smoke, a few people's eardrums explode, my favorite truck win and the kids sitting in front of me get blitzed on beer.

In fact, I had such a good time that we're planning on going back next year — all three times.

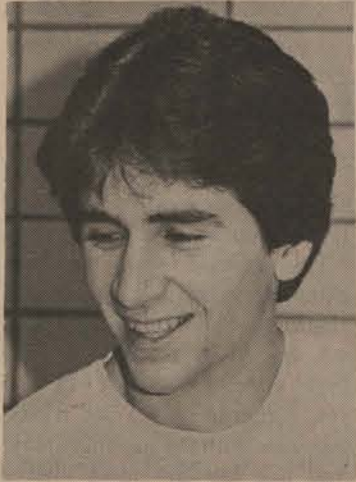
Now if only my ears would stop ringing.



# campus

## Your View

Question...What do you think of the campus bookstore?



Jon David Murray



Ainsley Conerly



John Greer



Amy Jones



Karen Nadeau

"They did not have my book and during the three weeks I waited for the book to come in I had three quizzes."

"High priced. Take advantage of the student when the book store buys back books."

"Too expensive, change books too often, does not give enough back for the books."

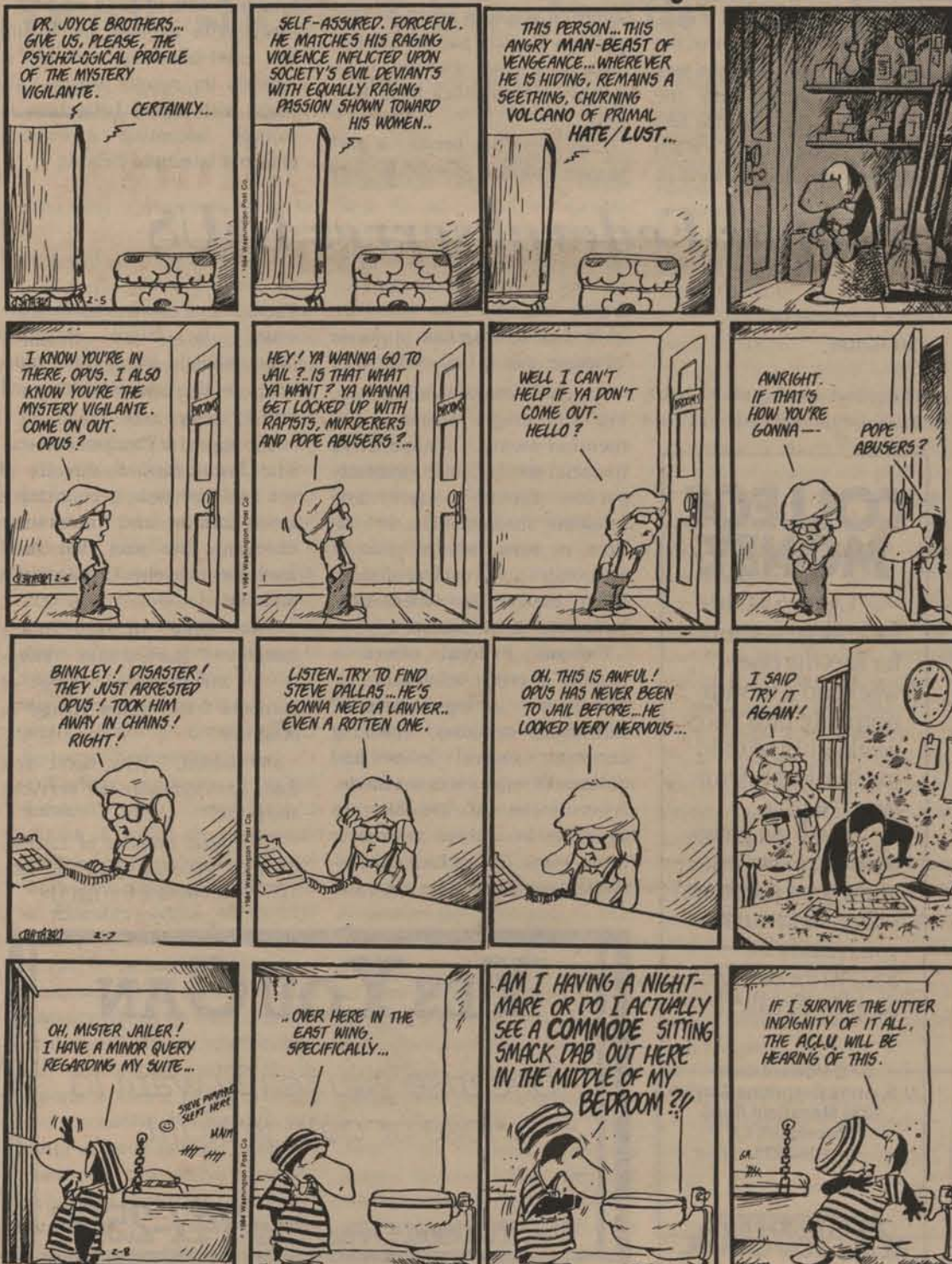
"Too expensive and didn't have the chemistry book I needed."

"Too expensive."

### BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed

### Real estate course offered



Beginning Feb. 13, LSUS will be offering an approved, expanded real estate course designed to meet the state educational requirements and to prepare people to sit for the state licensing examination.

In order to sit for the Louisiana Real Estate Examination, a 90-hour instructional program must have been successfully completed prior to the examination date.

Classes will meet on Tuesday and Thursday evening, Feb. 13 through May 15, 1986, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Course fee is \$350, not including books.

The instructor for this program is Jimmie Adams, owner of Adams Institute of Marketing.

Preregistration is necessary through the Office of Conferences and Institutes, Bronson Hall. For further information call 797-5257.

## ALMAGEST

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# campus

## Wrong place



A faculty member's car uses up a valuable student parking space earlier this week.

## Influenza cases cause absences

by JACK WILLIAMS  
Staff Writer

Chicken pox and influenza have stricken the LSUS campus.

At least one case of chicken pox and a number of influenza cases are causing increased absenteeism in some classes.

According to Dorothy Cady, professor of biology, influenza is not uncommon at this time of year; however, chicken pox among college age students is unusual. "It is better to have chicken pox when you're a child because apparently you become resistant to it," she said.

"The best defense is a good offense, and the best offense is your own immune system," Cady added. Incidences of flu rise during times of increased stress such as final examinations and the beginning of the semester. She advises

that a well-balanced diet and plenty of rest should be the major preventative measures taken. Vitamin C may also help. In older people who are prone to colds, flu shots may be recommended.

Some faculty members have reported that an increased number of students are absent from class. Dr. Anne Torrans, professor of communications, said that the Communications Center's "...supply of tissue is already used up for this year."

She also said that six of 28 people in her Communications 135 class have missed this week because of illness.

Other professors report no such drop in attendance. "Attendance has been fairly consistent in my class," said Dr. Sura Rath, professor of English.

by PENNY WILSON  
Contributing Writer

If you are a true David Letterman fan, you probably didn't miss the 4th Anniversary Special that aired Saturday night on NBC. It was done in true Letterman style with his usual coyness and dry sense of humor.

The different touch about this particular special is that it was taped on board a 747 at 39,000 feet flying 540 miles a hour, en route to Miami, Florida. This show had everything every other Letterman show had, including Paul Schaffer and the band sitting and playing music in first class with Dave, who incidently had a desk just like a ground version of the show. Larry "Bud" Melman was riding coach along with the "fugitive guy," the audience and Hal the director. With microphone in hand Letterman

proceeded to walk through the plane the way he walks through the NBC commissary, sticking his mike in people's faces and asking them ridiculous questions, but as all the loyal Letterman fans know, he gets away with the ridiculous.

The major portion of the 90-minute special was showing some of the more memorable scenes from the first four years. Forget the airplane gimmick, this was the best part of the show. These scenes kept you laughing, like when Letterman donned a suit covered in Alka-Seltzer and then was lowered into a clear tank of water on stage, or when he slipped into a velcro suit and leaped towards a, you guessed it, a velcro wall and stuck to it, face first.

Late Night has become a part of over 3 million Americans late

night, airing every week night at 11:30 except Fridays.

This special was the conglomeration of Letterman, his side kicks, Schaffer and Melman, his dry jokes mixed with the flight crew of the TWA 747, and yes, airborne stupid pet tricks, complete with the instant replay. And last but not least viewer mail, which has become a literary contest among viewers to see who can compose the most unreal letter so it will appear on the weekly viewer mail segment on Thursday nights.

As a whole David Letterman's 4th Anniversary Special was 90 minutes worth of solid entertainment. With an ever increasing and loyal television audience it appears the results are in. Late Night with David Letterman is rapidly becoming America's choice of late night viewing.

## Campus Federal serves LSUS

by KEVAN SMITH  
Staff Writer

The grand opening of the LSUS branch of Campus Federal Credit

Union was held Dec. 9 and Dr. H.M. Lewis, associate professor of music, was its first customer.

Campus Federal Credit Union, like all credit unions, is a member-owned cooperative financial institution. It presently serves faculty, staff and graduate students from two offices in New Orleans, two in Shreveport and a central office in Baton Rouge. The offices here have about 280 members.

Campus Federal offers a number of credit union services. There are savings accounts, retirement accounts, checking accounts, several loans and automated teller cards available.

Certificates of Deposit are available from three months to three years. IRAs which earn interest daily are at an 8.25% rate.

There is a no charge checking account. It offers signature loans, vehicle loans, first mortgage loans, money orders and PULSE teller cards.

The appeal of Campus Federal, said Jamie Barlow, director of the LSUS Branch, is on campus convenience and no-charge checking. She said that most members hold checking accounts and CDs.

"We need to get more members," Barlow said. "There is a membership drive of mailouts from Baton Rouge in progress."

She added, "Why don't you come in to compare our services and rates?"

The phone number of LSUS's Campus Federal branch is 797-5157. The offices are in BH 114.

**Pi Sigma Epsilon will be selling carnations for Valentine's Day on Feb. 13, from 9:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. and on Feb. 14 from 8:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. in the University Center for \$1.25 per flower. All profits from the sale will go to the Family Crisis Center.**

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# features

## KITT format set by listeners

by ERIC GIPSON  
Staff Writer

Remember the days when changes on the FM dial occurred about once a millenium, as when easy-listening KMBQ went—gasp—album rock? The evolution of local radio the last three years could easily rival the spelling of Khadafi's name as the most fluctuating item.

KITT, 93.7 FM is the latest addition to the airwaves, incidentally making KMBQ the latest omission. KITT is setting somewhat of a precedent for a local station of its power in that its format is "listener-oriented". "The idea of the station is to turn the format over to Shreveport,"

said John Frost, KITT program director and morning disc jockey. Frost said he felt that the recent line-up of stations was reflective of what the public wanted to hear.

"KITT will always be in a state of evolution," said Frost, adding "what you hear today, you might not hear tomorrow." According to Frost, the station records all calls and writes down all comments in an effort to understand the public's musical tastes.

During its initial days of broadcast, the station played the kind of music one would only hear on "Solid Gold Saturday Night," the national oldies program on

KEEL. Combined with the 60's classics were mid and late 70's artists like Fleetwood Mac and Elton John. This week, however, KITT seems to have received more requests for the more current hits, e.g. Bruce Springsteen and Lionel Richie.

Referring to the other FM competitors, Frost said, "They are really listening." The impact KITT has on the format of other stations, he said, will ultimately be good for Shreveport because it is what people want to hear. "They can sit in their ivory towers with their money, but when you play what people like, they'll listen."

## America's flaw of ambitious pride shows with shuttle crash

by KRISTINA NEMEC  
Contributing Writer

Tuesday, January 28, 1986: The day was long. The space shuttle exploded, and the mind of a nation imploded, collapsed upon itself like a dying star. Our false security was verified, stabbed from behind by a darkly clad figure with no name, who suddenly appeared to remind us of our vulnerability.

Last night I painted a picture. It began as an abstraction. Wildly colorful. Turbulent. Below it land emerged, then an ocean and a ship. The colors seemed to descend upon the ship, to assault it. I named my work "The Hand of Fate Destroys the Ship of Humanity". There was a face in that jumble of color, a court jester laughing, sneering from underneath his pointed cap.

Whether we know it or not, humanity was thrust into a drama in which we all became the tragic hero. Our national networks cast a festive America into a macabre arena of despair. Before we could even blink, waves of radiation pierced our eyes, and purged our minds of all stability. When we least expected it, an invisible hand lifted us from our red velvet throne of indestructibility, stripped away our technological armor, and flung us back into the earth; so that for an hour pieces of our national ego rained into the Atlantic.

The day felt like a Sunday or some sort of odd holiday, when the mood of an afternoon permeates every household. We had potato chips on the coffee table. No one cooked. No one called. Only the television broke the tension, as it periodically erupted into excited reports and speculations in between the instant replay. I watched the tape of the shuttle in flight, on fire, in pieces, over and over. Then I slept.

For two hours, that image floated in my mind, like wooden wreckage from a sunken ship, it bobbed up to the surface of my dreams. I heard the howling of a bloodhound caged in a pen next door, but in my dreams, the whole world was wailing: A million mouths bursting like bubbles into a million O's. Then I opened my eyes to a crisp, bright blue sky-blue cracked by the naked branches of an oak. The howling had faded to a whimper, and somebody's radio had captured a song through the static: "I'm wide awake. Wide awake. I'm not sleeping..."

At the insistent bidding of Congress and the Pentagon, NASA has produced this multi-purpose craft, designed for scientific and military use. The configuration of the shuttle is therefore suited to transport both light-weight scientific apparatuses and bulky military equipment. Apparently, the warning system had been dismantled to accommodate a larger payload. For the last week, America has struggled with the implications involving

the continuation of space exploration. But, in my opinion, the true debate does not concern the continuation of the space program, rather it deals with the motives propelling it. Are the goals of our nation focused upon gaining scientific knowledge, or are they commanded by the desire to expand military strength and national prestige?

Like Faust or King Lear, the United States suffers from a tragic flaw: ambitious pride. As citizens of a nation and a planet, we must scrutinize the subtleties of national and international endeavors, for as our technological capabilities grow. We approach the narrow line dividing the quest for knowledge and the greed for power. To view ourselves as immune, encased within a computerized womb is to tempt a technological disaster.

On January 28, 1986, we were given a glimpse of our fallibility. The tragedy of the Challenger is a manifestation of America's blind ambition. But, our destiny is not chained to an unalterable course of predestination. Rather, our fate lies within us, lurking in the abstract motivations which direct our actions. Our fate becomes visible only when we stop to examine ourselves closely and honestly.

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## 'Youngblood' uplifting film with much hope

by EDY EDDINS  
Contributing Writer

being one of the guys.

There's only one major problem: In obtaining the only slot open on the team, Youngblood edged out a bruiser named Racki, who had beaten him up during the tryouts. Racki does make it on another team, though and takes his revenge on Youngblood during a game and hospitalizes his best friend, Sutton (Patrick Swayze). From that point, Youngblood is determined to get Racki, no matter what the cost.

Rob Lowe gives an excellent performance as the title character, although it does pain me a bit to admit it. I don't know who taught him how to skate but whoever it was did it right. Lowe makes you forget all of his frivolous teenager roles and masterfully takes on the role of a determined young hockey player.

When I heard that the prince of the Hollywood Brat Pack, Rob Lowe, was starring in a new movie, I was determined to avoid it. However, the forces that be found me placed firmly in front of the St. Vincent Six ticket booth buying my way into the opening showing of "Youngblood", knowing that I'd hate myself in the morning.

I didn't.

From its opening scene, "Youngblood" manages to kidnap the audience and whisk it away to Canada to play ice hockey. The audience becomes intricately involved in the story of a farm boy who knows the game and wants to play in the big time.

Youngblood (Rob Lowe) tries out for a Junior League hockey team and really shows his expertise on the ice. After being selected for the only spot on the team, Lowe is promptly kidded, shaved and indecently exposed to the coach's daughter, all part of

Youngblood is one of those rare movies that comes along, lifts you up, and makes you feel like there is still hope for the human race. Kind of like Rocky on ice (Rocky I that is).

Put "Youngblood at the top of your movie-viewing list.

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# sports

Almagest photo by Jim Connell



Fernando Crucet drives the ball for KA against BSU in the IM tourney.

## Games look hot; Sigs defeat KA

by REGINA YEAGER  
Sports Editor

The men's intramural basketball teams are definitely hot this year and it is easy to understand why there are so many good teams at LSUS. Since LSUS is a commuter campus, there are many great former high school and college ball players here.

The independent teams have a definite advantage. Unlike the fraternities on campus, they can recruit any one they want to play on a team. The frats however have to stick with the members of their organization.

Even with this disadvantage, the fraternity teams look good this season. This week KA and Kappa Sig fought it out in a aggressive game. It ended with a win for the Sigs 52-43 as the KA's probably realized they have improved tremendously this year but so has their arch rival Kappa Sig.

Foul after foul, this game was close until the very end when the Sigs started scoring more and the KA's started fouling more. Jimmy Slack and Mark Barber led the Sigs in rebounds and points. The KA's stars shined as usual with Paul Sheppard and Dale Kaiser leading the way.

The independent teams are strong this season too. As always, Phi Van Halen is one of the better teams. A few additional members are added to their roster this year and it is easy to see why.

Phi Van Halen took on G.U.S. this week who has also improved this year. But G.U.S. couldn't win this game even though they were close a few times. Bo Ivory, one of the new Halens, was hot the first half. Understandably, the Halens were not happy when Ivory got pulled from the game at the half for not having his LSUS ID.

This rule is supposed to be strictly enforced this semester. However, Ivory was told he could go ahead and play. After Ivory scored a few points, the other team complained and Ivory was pulled.

Ivory being pulled did not affect Phi Van Halen as they defeated G.U.S. 61-52. Tyrone Bailes scored a whopping 18 points for the Halens. It is easy to see why the Halens recruited this former Woodlawn schoolmate to play ball.

## ROTC barely squeezes by Halens

by DALE KAISER  
Sports Writer

Tuesday night's action saw ROTC get back on the winning track with an exciting 49-48 win over Phi Van Halen No. 2. ROTC was led by Dave Williams and Mark Roberts who tallied for 14 and 12 points respectively. Phi Van Halen was led by John Easom's 14 point effort in the loss. The BSU continued their winning ways in defeating GUS 40-36 behind Steve Shelley's 15 point effort. GUS was led by Mike Nerren's 12 as they cut a 7 point

BSU halftime, lead to 4 before time ran out.

Other men's action saw Rex blow past 5 Guys Named Moe 48-18 and the Fitters get a forfeit from Phi Van Halen No. 1. For Rex, Kenny Larson led all scorers with 12, followed by teammates Roger Cason and Rick Maffett who hit for 11 and 10 respectively. In the only women's game, H&PE soundly defeated the Happy Hookers 43-10 behind S. Prejean's 32 point effort.

The regular season of IM basketball tipped off Monday

night with H&PE meeting the Grade Enforcers and Jams facing off against the Blazing Warriors. The H&PE team had little trouble in disposing of the Grade Enforcers by cruising to a 47-41 win. The Blazing Warriors were the victims of a massive air assault as the Jams had all five starters in double figures. Scott Heno led the bombardment by pumping in 34 points. He was followed by teammate Paul Morgan with 16, Darren Gay with 12, John Evans hitting for 11, and Rounding out the scoring was Ron Schwartz with 10.

## BSU wins big in pre-season tournament

The second annual IM Preseason Basketball Tournament drew to a close last Thursday night with a matchup of two of the campus' most powerful teams. The finals saw BSU face Phi Van Halen No. 2 in what proved to be a very exciting game. Both teams started out very slow with BSU holding only a 6-5 lead midway through the first half. With 3:34 left before halftime, Phi Van Halen took a 7-6 lead on a bucket by John Easom. The BSU answered with a bucket by Tim Wooten to go back on top 8-7. During the last 2:50 the BSU outscored Phi Van Halen 5-0 for a 13-7 lead at the half. The first eight minutes of the second half saw BSU outscore Phi Van Halen 9-8 for a 22-15 lead with 3:22 remaining. Phi Van Halen tried furiously to cut into BSU's lead but were outrebound-

ed and with patient ball handling and good shot selection, the BSU eased to a 27-16 victory.

In order for PVH to reach the finals, they had to get by another Division I upstart, G.U.S. After a very physical 24 minutes of basketball, Phi Van Halen eased to their berth in the finals with a 27-20 victory. In the other semi-final game, the BSU won handily over the Cinderella KA's 49-19. Willie Bryant turned in an outstanding effort for the BSU hitting for 18 points as KA's clock definitely ran out at midnight.

The championship game of the consolation bracket saw the Fitters face off against the Wrath of Buckwheat. Behind Ray Seals and David Rak's combined 14 point effort, the Fitters took home the consolation trophy with a 30-24 win.

Willie Bryant, whose

outstanding play and leadership on the court helped the BSU win the tournament, was chosen as the Almagest's Most Valuable Player. The rest of the Almagest's All-Tournament Team consisted of Bryant's teammates Gary Warren and Steve Kitchings, John Easom and Bazzie Bates of Phi Van Halen, Paul Sheppard-KA, Bob Brown-Kappa Sigma, Byron Lafield-ROTC, Roy Seals-Fitters and David Carver-Buckwheat.

All of these players should be congratulated for their excellent performances on the basketball court. This reporter would like to wish all of these teams an excellent season and the best of luck and hope to see you in the All-Campus Championship Tournament at the end of the season.

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